Application No.: 09/849,969 2 Docket No.: 20052/1200521-US3

## AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) A method for preventing T cell mediated tissue destruction associated with type I diabetes comprising administering to a subject in need of such treatment a prophylactically effective amount of a gp39 antagonist selected from the group consisting of soluble CD40, CD40 fusion protein, and an anti-gp39 antibody, or a fragment thereof that binds gp39, wherein the anti-gp39 antibody or fragment binds to an epitope which is specifically bound by a monoclonal antibody is produced by 89-76 hybridoma, ATCC Accession Number HB11713 or 24-31 hybridoma, ATCC Accession Number HB11712, wherein the tissue destruction results from a T cell-mediated immune reaction to one or more autoantigens.

- 2. (Canceled)
- 3. (Canceled)
- 4. (Canceled)
- 5. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the gp39 antagonist is an anti-gp39 antibody.
- 6. (Previously presented) The method of claim 5, wherein the anti-gp39 antibody is a monoclonal antibody.
- 7. (Previously presented) The method of claim 5, wherein the anti-gp39 antibody is an anti-human gp39 antibody.
- 8. (Currently amended) The method of claim 6, wherein the monoclonal antibody is 89-76 or 24-31, or an antibody having the gp39 binding characteristics thereof.

Application No.: 09/849,969 3 Docket No.: 20052/1200521-US3

9. (Previously presented) The method of claim 6, wherein the monoclonal antibody is a chimeric monoclonal antibody containing constant regions and variable regions from different species.

- 10. (Previously presented) The method of claim 6, wherein the monoclonal antibody is a humanized monoclonal antibody.
  - 11. (Canceled)
- 12. (Currently amended) A method for preventing a T cell mediated autoimmune response associated with type I diabetes comprising administering to a subject in need of such treatment a prophylactically effective amount of an anti-gp39 antibody or a gp39-binding fragment thereof, comprising variable regions which antibody or fragment comprises a hypervariable region of monoclonal antibody 24-31 (ATCC Accession Number HB11712) or monoclonal antibody 89-76, or of an antibody having the gp39 binding characteristics thereof.
- 13. (Currently amended) The method of claim 12, wherein the gp39 antagonist is a gp39-binding antibody fragment comprising variable regions of monoclonal antibody 24-31.
- 14. (Currently amended) The method of claim 13, wherein the gp39-binding antibody fragment is a Fab or F(ab')<sub>2</sub> fragment comprising variable regions of monoclonal antibody 24-31.
  - 15. (Canceled)
  - 16. (Canceled)
- 17. (Previously presented) The method of claim 9, wherein the chimeric monoclonal anti-gp39 antibody comprises variable regions of monoclonal antibody 24-31.

- 18. (Canceled)
- 19. (Previously presented) The method of claim 10, wherein the humanized monoclonal anti-gp39 antibody comprises variable regions of monoclonal antibody 24-31.
- 20. (Canceled)
- 21. (Canceled)